

**Developmental Disabilities Council
Health and Education Workgroup
DRAFT MINUTES
9/16/04**

Present: Alphonso Lee, Lori Flood, Diana McMaster, Sherrie Brown and Julie Williamson-Purdy.

Absent: Tracy Day, Angie Brothers, Lou Colwell, Patty McDonald.

Staff: Eva Rooks and Brian Dahl.

Call to order/agenda/approval of minutes

The meeting was called to order. Julie called for approval of the minutes. Diana asked for a change to clarify a portion of the last meeting minutes concerning Medicaid and children's medical. The minutes were approved as amended.

Julie then called for adjustments to the agenda. Julie stated it would be best to postpone the discussion of Performance Target HE2 to another meeting where more members would be present. A motion to postpone the discussion on Performance Target HE2 was moved, seconded and passed.

2007-2011 State Plan Work Plan

Eva reviewed the proposed work plan for the 2007-2011 state plan with the workgroup. This was an opportunity to bring up any questions or changes that might be suggested to be brought up at the full council meeting. No suggestions or changes were made by the workgroup.

Work Group Discussion

The discussion moved to the cuts that are happening as a result of the CARE tool and how it affects both children and adults. Primarily, there is a need for additional respite and childcare that is no longer being funded by the Division.

Diana talked about the process of fair hearing and how it is the right of all persons receiving services from DSHS to appeal a decision. Work group members noted that people have reported that their right to a fair hearing was being discouraged by state agencies. Sherrie Brown shared the Columbia Legal Services has been working to help people who are adversely affected by their CARE assessment to understand their right to appeal. She stated Dinnen Leary has been doing a lot of this work and suggested that he may be a good person to come and speak to the work group about what Columbia Legal Services are doing.

It was noted that the new WACs have included a state residency requirement for services. The work group was particularly concerned about the department's position on residency and its impact on children and families who receive services from the Division, particularly, how this requirement will be used to accept or deny services for applicants. The work group requested more information about the CARE tool and the legal recourse for those who are denied services or have their services reduced.

Big Picture Work Plan – Reading 04-H-7

Eva reviewed what was going on with the individual performance targets.

Agency Updates

Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)-

Diana shared that MAA is submitting their budget proposal to the Office of Financial Management.

MAA is going to be asking for reinstatement of the program that served undocumented children. Diana also shared that persons who are Medicare and Medicaid eligible must apply for the drug card. If recipients don't apply for the drug card program, they will not be provided a pharmacy benefit.

Diana shared that recent legislation passed at the federal level requires hospital and ambulance

services to ask for the citizenship of all those accessing emergency services.

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)-

Sherrie shared that the University is now going to offer a minor in disabilities studies. Sherrie also shared that she is looking for information about persons with developmental disabilities in the juvenile justice system. She is talking to the ARC and is looking for additional information on the subject. Larry Jones did a lot of work on this but she is having difficulty finding the results of his study.

Special Education Lawsuit

Donna Patrick shared that around nine school districts are expected to be suing the state for not providing enough money for special education. The Washington State Special Education Coalition (WSSEC) is taking a strong stance against this potential lawsuit, because this approach makes kids in special education poster children for the lawsuit and fuel resentment against these children unnecessarily. WSSEC feels that this lawsuit points the finger to special education funding as a problem, when in reality it is general education funding that is under funded. If the law suit is filed, WSSEC will file a counter suit.

Next month's agenda

- Speaker from Adult and Aging Service
- Speaker from Columbia Legal Services
- Kathy Watson, Health Care Training Project

Meeting was adjourned